



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PSC SETS INTERVENTION DEADLINE IN EMBARQ REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE CLASSIFICATION IN ITS LEBANON EXCHANGE

JEFFERSON CITY—Embarq Missouri, Inc. (Embarq) has filed an application with the Missouri Public Service Commission seeking competitive classification for all of its business services, other than exchange access service, in its Lebanon exchange.

If competitive status is granted, Embarq would no longer be subject to price or rate regulation by the PSC for its business services in the Lebanon exchange. Embarq would be permitted to raise or lower its telephone prices at its own discretion, subject to the marketplace. The PSC would continue to regulate quality of service, service termination and other billing issues.

Applications to intervene and participate in this case must be filed no later than **February 20, 2007**, with the Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360. Copies of the application should be sent to: Linda K. Gardner, 5454 West 110th Street, KSOPKJ0401, Overland Park, Kansas 66211; and the Office of the Public Counsel, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-2230.

The Office of the Public Counsel is a separate state agency which represents the general public in matters before the Commission. Individual citizens wishing to comment should contact either the Office of the Public Counsel (Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Suite 650, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 573-751-4857, e-mail opcservice@ded.mo.gov) or the Public Service Commission Staff (P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 1-800-392-4211, e-mail pscinfo@psc.mo.gov).

The PSC Staff, the Office of the Public Counsel and any other interested party are to file any objections or recommendations regarding Embarq's request by February 23, 2007.

In this case, state law requires the Commission to issue its decision within 30 days of Embarq's February 8, 2007, filing. Under the law, the 30-day criteria for determining competitive classification is based upon the existence of two other nonaffiliated entities providing basic local telecommunications service, one of which may be a wireless provider, the other a wireline company providing local voice service using facilities in which it has a partial or full ownership interest.

If any party opposes Embarq's application, a hearing will be held on March 5, 2007, in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, in Jefferson City. Any party needing additional accommodations to participate in this hearing should call the Missouri Public Service Commission's hotline at 1-800-392-4211 or Relay Missouri at 711 at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

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Case No. TO-2007-0301